



# Alaska Department of Fish and Game NEWS

February 22, 2006

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## McNeil River and Round Island Wildlife Viewing Permits Now Available

ANCHORAGE – Wildlife viewing permit applications are now available on-line for both the McNeil River and Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuaries at [www.wildlife.alaska.gov](http://www.wildlife.alaska.gov).

“The permit period is now open for both areas,” said Joe Meehan, wildlife biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game “but the opportunity to view the world’s largest concentration of bears at McNeil River in 2006 will be closing soon.”

Permit applications to view brown bears at the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary must be submitted online or mailed by March 1. Mailed applications must reach Anchorage by March 15. There is a non-refundable application fee of \$25 per person. Applicants are entered into a lottery and if drawn, Alaska residents pay a \$150 fee and non-residents pay \$350 for a four-day permit.

On-line applications to visit Round Island, within the Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary, and to view walrus are now available and require a user fee of \$50. Permits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

Doug Hill (the new manager of the McNeil River sanctuary) and Diane Okonek (manager of Round Island) encourage Alaska’s residents and visitors to take advantage of our own world-class wildlife viewing destinations.

Applications and additional permit information may be found at the ADF&G web site at [www.wildlife.alaska.gov](http://www.wildlife.alaska.gov), by visiting any Alaska Department of Fish & Game office or by calling (907) 267-2204.

For more information about wildlife viewing in Alaska, please contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at (907) 267-2344.